

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 6th JULY

Sunday, 6 July – 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

5.30 pm (Saturday) GEOFREY ALDOUS IN THANKSGIVING

10 am inc. Children's Liturgy FOR THE THOMAS FAMILY, R.I.P. Aileen Motahari

Monday, 7 July – Translation of St. Thomas in Canterbury – Red

This day in 1220 the body of St. Thomas of Canterbury which had been kept in the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral, from his martyrdom in 1170, was transferred to a new tomb, an imposing shrine behind the High Altar. So important had St. Thomas become that Rome sent several Cardinals to the translation. The shrine was destroyed in 1538 on the orders of Henry VIII who wanted Becket's bones and all mention of his name obliterated.

8 am WELLBEING OF THE ROBERSON FAMILY Sheila

Tuesday, 8 July – Feria – Green – Memorial of Blessed Adrian Fortescue

Blessed Sir Adrian Fortescue (1476 - 1539), beatified as a martyr, Knight of the Bath, cousin of Anne Boleyn. In 1539 he was one of fifty people condemned of treason without a trial by Parliament for unspecified acts presumably relating to hostility to Henry VIII's church policies. He was beheaded at the Tower of London on either 8th, 9th or 10th July.

9 am EXPOSITION

9.30 am ANTONY ANTONION, R.I.P. The Kearney Family

Wednesday, 9 July – Feria – Green

10 am GABRIEL HODGES, R.I.P. Lidiana

Thursday, 10 July – Feria – Green

9.30 am EXPOSITION

10 am MICHELLE, R.I.P. Jenny & Eileen

Friday, 11 July – St. Benedict – White

Benedict of Nursia (c. 480 - c. 547) an Italian, the founder of Christian monastic communities and a rule giver for monks living in community. While the Rule of St. Benedict is seen as the pattern for monastic life his original intention was that the rules were for laypeople. "My words", he says, "are addressed to thee, whoever thou art, that, renouncing thine own will, dost put on the strong and bright armour of obedience in order to fight for the Lord Christ, our true King."

10 am DAPHNE & JOHN HARRIS S.V.P.
Golden Wedding Anniversary

Saturday, 12 July – St. Mildred of Thanet – White

St. Mildred, (Died AD 732). Daughter of Merewald, an Anglian ruler of the seventh century and St. Ermenburga, a Kentish princess. Mildred entered a monastery called Minster that had been founded by her mother. The monastery was located on the Isle of Thanet, and she eventually became abbess. Mildred had reputation for great holiness and for generosity and compassion to the poor and rejected.

9.30 am FR. JIM HURLEY, 40th ANNIVERSARY Beryl Peeke

10.15 am & 4.45 pm Confession

Sunday, 13 July – 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Green

SEA SUNDAY

5.30 pm (Saturday) JAMES MIZEN, R.I.P., & FAMILY Ruth O'Sullivan

10 am inc. Children's Liturgy BERNARD FRANCIS MULLEN, R.I.P. Peter Mullen

PETRINEWS

St. Peter's Church, Westgate-on-Sea

Priest in Charge: FATHER JOHN SLATER

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14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) – 6 July, 2008

With the great Feast of Saints Peter and Paul falling last Sunday we've skip a week in the New Testament story in which Matthew tells us about the ministry of Christ. We missed out on the instructions our Saviour proffered to his disciples. Missed His insight into where our priorities ought to lie. When, in the missing week's reading, talking to us though the disciples Christ tells us all the things we should relegate in their order of preference – no, none of them are material pleasures or material things; rather they are persons, persons closest to our worldly hearts: mother, father, sons and daughters. Jesus goes on to say: "anyone who does not take up his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me." We missed all that and more. And why does our Lord say these things?

Why in today's reading does He again talk about things being hidden from the learned and powerful yet made known to those less clever? Well the truth seems to be that whatever Christ did during his earthly ministry here on earth the 'intelligencia', the learned ones, the religious leaders almost all deride Him, took his miracles and put a negative spin on them. Yes, even in times gone by, the 'spin-doctors' would have been at work; pleasing their bosses: the politicians, the Pharisees and confusing the ordinary people. And so by their rejection of the Truth, which is Christ, that the message of salvation is hidden from them. Their refusal to see Jesus for what He is made them blind to the Truth. So this wasn't God deliberately hiding this Truth; it was out of their own actions, their unwillingness to listen, see and understand which guided Jesus to take the 'message' to another people, the ordinary



people - child-like people. But it is in these ordinary people that the Son of God finds his true disciples, his loyal followers. We can choose to be whatever we want in our relationship with God. But the warning is clearly written. We have to have a child-like trust, a child-like understanding that Jesus loves us, loves me – whatever I am. We should recall the love which our own parents gave us, the security it offered, and how we believed everything they said and did - re-live that unquestioning love we had for them when we were little children. This is how we ought to experience our relationship with God. We should trust without question the Way Christ has shown us, the Truth He has revealed and follow the Life he has shown us. And then those burdens of faith we perceive won't exist. The yoke will be easy and light. For unlike our ancestors, before the revelations of Christ's teachings, we do not have the multitude of rules to govern our life and our worship which so weigh-down our Jewish forefathers. Simple love, simple trust, simple belief: this is the composition of the yoke we have to carry – our faith isn't without commitment, but it isn't so tough, so damning, so onerous that each of us can't fully gain the promises of Christ – only we, in a Pharisaic attitude or with blinkered indifference can fail to bathe in the heavenly grace which awaits us.

Father John writes:

The Lord is Kind and full of Compassion. Jesus has every claim to the title and majesty of Kingship, and yet he comes to us in humility and gentleness. We pray that this spirit of Christ may also be in us.

Next weekend is a very important time for the Parish as we celebrate the feast of

ST. MILDRED of THANET which falls on Sunday, 13 July

We shall celebrate this feast at the 9.30 am Mass on Saturday, 12 July, before we have the Summer Fête.

Why not come and ask the prayers of this special Saint to bring success to the event that day.

DEANERY MASS IN HONOUR OF SAINT MILDRED

There will be a special Deanery Mass in the Anglican church of

St. Mary the Virgin, Minster on Sunday, 13 July, at 3pm.

Celebrant: Dom Mark Savage, OSB.

There will be Tea in the Old School afterwards.

■ SUMMER FÊTE SATURDAY, 12 JULY

The very last minute items for the Fete are perishable foods and fruits, plus plants. Plants and other last minute items can be left by the door to the hall. Other items bring in during the week after daily Mass, see the Mass schedule on this newsletter. Alternatively you can bring them to Countess Mountbatten Court on Thursday evening, ring the number 22. Or again to Countess Mountbatten Court to the Lounge, follow signs, on Friday afternoon from about 3 pm till 8 pm.

A reminder: If you have put your name down to run a stall, or you want to help in any other way, there will be two opportunities to get acquainted as to where your stall will be sited, and what you need to do in preparation for the event. So, today, Saturday (5th) after the 5.30pm Mass Phil will be in the Hall with a layout of the gardens and times, etc. On Sunday (6th) Christine Wiltshire will see stall holders who attend the 10am Mass.

■ SOUTHWARK BRETHERN

The Southwark Brethren is along standing charity which helps sick and retired Priests who are in need. We thank you for your generosity in the past and ask for your help again this year. Please send donations to: Reverend Paul Hough, St. Elpheges Presbytery, 120 Stafford Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 9AY.

Last year we were able to give £1,000 each to thirty Priests in the Diocese of Southwark and Arundel and Brighton.

■ ROSARY GROUP

Is Our Blessed Lady calling you to a deeper commitment to prayer?

Information call Eileen McNiff on 299334.

■ WATERY SUNDAY NEXT SUNDAY, 13 July, promises to be a watery one!

(1) Next week is Sea Sunday, when the Church remembers all those who live and work at sea.

The Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. The Apostleship of the Sea reaches out to seafarers that visit our ports each year, offering pastoral and practical support and care. AOS is wholly dependent on voluntary donations to continue its work. There will be a retiring collection on Sea Sunday for the work of AOS – so please give generously next Sunday, their ministry cannot continue without you.

(2) We are going to welcome a new member of our Parish community in Westgate. The Sacrament of Baptism of DAVID SERRANO, who is only seven weeks old, will be celebrated during the 10 am Mass next Sunday. Please remember his parents and two older brothers.

■ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The charity LIFE is looking for volunteer counsellors. LIFE offers an excellent pregnancy counselling and care service. Full Counselling training given, or if you have Counselling skills please come and help us. Phone Agnes Rees 07515 578 598, or email: agnesrees@lifecharity.org.uk.

■ EARLY WARNING!

Following a visit from the Southwark Diocesan Property Surveyor last week we are pleased to say that he was very impressed with the condition of the building, the excellent disabled facilities, etc. He did, however, suggest that it was best practice to have an emergency evacuation exercise. It is therefore planned to have an 'evacuation' at the 5.30 pm Mass on Saturday, 2 August. More details next week.

■ SVP IN WESTGATE

They are looking for new members, especially the male variety. If you can spare a couple of evenings a month then please contact Eunice O'Neill on 832774.

We are now in the year of

SAINT PAUL

As we begin to look at his letters which form a large part of the New Testament, we may begin to see that he is not so harsh as we first thought, and that he has a real humanity.

**Fr. John suggests you read
1 Corinthians, Chapter 13**

■ MASS ATTENDANCES

Feast of SS Peter & Paul

Saturday (28 June) 5.30pm 50

Sunday (29 June) 10 am 106

Anniversaries this week:

Ciriaco D'Angelo (1995),

Joan Mayne (1999)

Your Prayers are asked for:

For those who are sick: Gerry & Eva Brewer, Pat Whaley, Canon William Clements, Len Lane, Peg Bunnage and Eileen Czuczman.

Special prayers for Alan & Myra Taylor, who through ill-health who have left their own Birchington home for a Care Home in Westgate.

Remember the recently dead: John Mousdale and Dom Derek Summers O.S.B. May they rest in peace.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions on Saturdays from approx. 10.30am until 11am and 4.45pm until 5.15pm. Other times by appointment.

HOLY COMMUNION

We warmly welcome all non-Catholic to our services. It is not permitted, however, to receive Holy Communion until a person is received into full membership of the Catholic Church. If you would like to know more about this, please contact Fr. John.

TEA & COFFEE

after the 10am Mass on Sunday in the Hall

**YEAR OF ST. PAUL
2008 - 2009**

From the first letter of St. Paul to Thessalonians (5: 23-24)

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, God has called you and he will not fail.